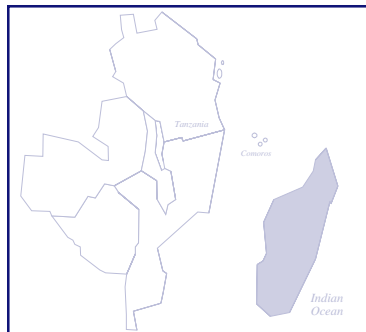
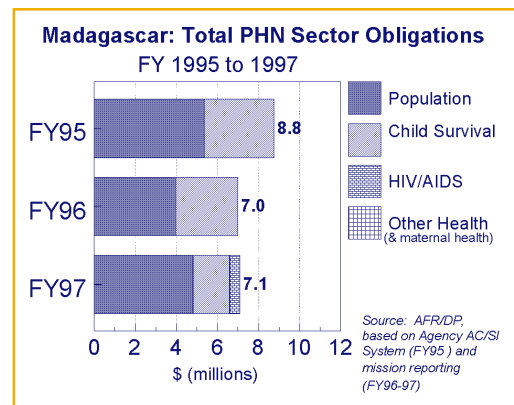


USAID Country Program Brief, October 1998
 Family Planning and Health Activities in
Madagascar



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|-----------------------------------|--|
| Population: | 13.3 million (estimate for 1997) |
| Infant mortality rate: | 93 deaths per 1,000 births (1992 DHS) |
| Adequate nutrition (wt.-for-age): | 51% of children ages 12–23 months (1992 DHS) |
| Total fertility rate: | 6.1 children per woman (1992 DHS) |
| Contraceptive prevalence rate: | 10% (all women/modern methods, 1997 DHS) |
| Demographic and Health Surveys: | 1992, 1997, 2002 (planned) |
| Multi-indicator cluster survey: | 1995 (UNICEF) |

USAID/Madagascar is following a country strategic plan for 1998–2002 with a primary goal to reduce poverty. The mission’s family planning and health program complements food security and disaster preparedness activities, which are also managed under the mission’s strategic objective (SO) in the health sector. Activities in private sector development and natural resource management SOs are closely linked to these efforts and integrated where possible. Agencywide funding trends for family planning and health activities in Madagascar in 1995–97 are summarized in the figure to the right. The mission’s SO in family planning and health has five intermediate results (IRs) that correspond to the family, community, and health center; and institutional and policy issues.



Strategic Objective 2: Smaller, healthier families.

- IR 2.1:** Increase use of family planning, maternal and child health, and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) services and healthy behaviors.
- IR 2.2:** Increase community participation in health and food security issues.
- IR 2.3:** Increase access to quality health services.
- IR 2.4:** Improve capacity to plan and manage programs.
- IR 2.5:** Improve policies, program advocacy, and decision-making.

Activities in Family Planning and Health

Improving Family Planning Services. Madagascar’s national family planning program is increasing access to services through promotion of alternative delivery systems and an expanded range of contraceptive methods. USAID/Madagascar has supported the establishment of community-based distribution of a variety of contraceptives and is facilitating broader distribution through the Social Marketing (SOMARC) Project, which commenced with condom sales in 1996, and will expand to include injectable and oral contraceptives during 1998. Through a cooperative agreement with Management Sciences for Health (MSH), the mission provides technical assistance and other support to strengthen the national family planning program’s management information systems, logistics, training, service delivery, and behavior change communications (BCC) efforts. The mission and its partners also provide support to the Ministry of Health (MOH) and local nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) for rehabilitation of family planning facilities; supplies and equipment; and training in clinical skills, supervision, and quality assurance.

Promotion of Child Survival. USAID/Madagascar has also promoted the development of several important national health policies, including integrated management of childhood illnesses (IMCI), which has now been adopted, and a national cost recovery policy. The mission collaborates with UNICEF to support the national immunization program; improve use, management, and outreach of cold chain equipment; and plays a major role in Madagascar’s polio eradication effort. In social mobilization, the mission has helped to develop key messages on vaccinations and nutrition and the information, education, and communication (IEC) materials to spread them. USAID/Madagascar also supports various NGOs that

provide child survival services, including those working with integrated PL 480 Title II feeding programs of two U.S. private voluntary organizations, CARE and Catholic Relief Services (CRS). With additional mission assistance, CRS is now introducing community-level health promotion and education into its NGO program. The mission plans to help the MOH develop an integrated management information system for family planning and health.

HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control. USAID/Madagascar is collaborating with other donors to support the development of a comprehensive strategy to control HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs). The mission has contributed to the development and nationwide adoption of syndromic treatment of STIs and is supporting focused preventive interventions that combine condom social marketing and BCC in high-prevalence areas, particularly major cities and along transportation routes. The mission also supports the development of community- and worksite-based distribution of condoms and provides grants to UNICEF and local NGOs to provide further BCC and STI treatment services in the capital and port cities.

Global Bureau and USAID/Madagascar Joint Planning Activities

Basic Support for Institutionalizing Child Survival seeks to develop the capacity of Malagasy counterparts to plan and implement child survival initiatives. Working with the MOH and other donors, BASICS is supporting the development and adoption of appropriate policies for integrated management of childhood illnesses and nutrition and the development of basic packages of nutrition and other child survival messages.

Demographic and Health Surveys is helping to disseminate the findings of the 1997 Madagascar DHS.

Family Planning Logistics Management Project is assisting the national family planning program and the National AIDS Control Program in commodity planning and management.

Michigan Population Fellows Program is fielding two fellows for Madagascar, one in Antananarivo to support capacity-building and enhanced integration of family planning, child survival, and AIDS prevention; and another in Fianarantsoa to coordinate efforts to protect biodiversity and promote smaller, healthier families.

POLICY Project is providing assistance to identify and address policy constraints to effective family planning, child survival, and AIDS prevention programs.

Population Reference Bureau supports efforts to disseminate census and survey data effectively and provides decentralized training to program planners and managers in the use of data for strategic planning and evaluation as well as program advocacy training for journalists and others with influence on public opinion.

U.S. Bureau of the Census is providing ongoing technical support to enhance local data analysis and dissemination capability.

Bureau for Humanitarian Response, Office of Private & Voluntary Cooperation Child Survival Grantees as of 1998

Adventist Development and Relief Agency received approval for a grant that started in FY 1998.

Medical Care Development, Inc. has a two-year program (1996–1998) focusing on maternal and newborn care, immunization, diarrhea case management, improved growth monitoring, and social marketing of bednets.



This USAID Country Program Brief was prepared for the Human Resources Division, Office of Sustainable Development, USAID Africa Bureau (AFR/SD/HRD), by the Center for International Health Information (CIHI). Questions and comments can be directed to CIHI (info@cihi.com).